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Subject: Amended Appeal Brief for Pending Appl 09/287,478

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United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
1/22/2008

Dear Mr. Phan:

Please find attached an Amended Appeal Brief for Application No. 09/287,478 in response to a Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief (37 CFR 41.37) with an official mailing date of 7/16/2007.

As there were no specific details provided with the notice or for some of the items even after subsequent communications, I have had to guess at some of the issues and so appealed items 1, 4, 5, 8 and 10. I have used the appeal briefs for applications 10/796,051 (Lim, et al) and 09/940,577 (Soininen, et al) as templates.

The response to your notice has taken a great deal of time due to

- 1) Ongoing difficulties researching objections to the previously amended Appeal Brief.
- 2) Unfamiliarity with respect to the detailed requirements of Appeals, the MPEP and the case law.
- 3) Other corporate obligations – PRO-SE patent work is a part-time obligation for Rode Consulting, Inc., my company.
- 4) Inconsistencies in the opinions of those consulted within the USPTO regarding the standing of this case and appropriate next action.

I trust these difficulties will weight in consideration of the delay in responding.

Thank you,

Chris Rode
Applicant PRO SE
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant Name : Christian S. Rode
Application. No. : 09 / 287,478 Confirmation No. 6350
Applicant Docket No. : RCI001v1
Filed : April 6, 1999
Provisional Appl. Filed : 60/080,905, 4/06/98
Title: : Apparatus For Evaluating And Demonstrating
Electronic Circuits And Components
Examiner : Thai Phan
TC./A.U. : 2128

M/S Appeal Brief - Patents

Honorable Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

APPEAL BRIEF AMENDMENT

(Revised 1/16/2008)

Dear Sir or Madam:

In response to a Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review with mailing date 7/19/2006, and subsequent Notifications of Non-compliant Appeal Brief, please replace the relevant sections of the previously submitted brief with the following sections (EXCLUDE EVIDENCE APPENDICES, ALREADY SUBMITTED).

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A. Real party in interest.

All rights to and interest in this patent have been assigned to Rode Consulting, Inc., a Massachusetts Corporation, Federal Tax ID 04-3333085.

B. Related appeals and interferences.

The Appellant is aware of no other pending appeals and interferences regarding this application.

C. Status of claims.

Claims 1-16 are pending and rejected.

D. Status of amendments.

No claims have been amended (or added) since Final Rejection.

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E. Summary of claimed subject matter.

Overview

Applicant claims a system for simulating electronic circuits and components by means of an intrinsically stateless, file-oriented protocol such as HTTP, in conjunction with at least one element of HTTP-communicated state, a synthetic Unique Identifier. Applicant discloses specific methods to make practical the **public use** of such a system by **unregistered persons** by means of the automatic assignment of said Unique Identifier and methods that make use of the identifier to regulate use of resources. Further claimed are methods that use this Identifier to index and manage temporary files, which may be used, for example, to feed results from a circuit synthesis step forward to simulation/verification. Also claimed are various methods to regulate and log (etc.) use of resources, such as limiting total number of simulations (count or time) or lowering the process priority of said simulations.

Claim 1

Independent claim 1 recites a Client-Server method for simulation over a Network by means of a Stateless Communications Protocol, such as HTTP (page 3, paragraph 4 (“A Browser is a Client Program...”). The system is a (multiple) client-(multiple) server system connected by a computer network, especially the public Internet (Fig. 1-3C, part 200). The method consists of a user visiting a web site and, in addition to the Client retrieving a web page, receives a token, a “Unique Identifier” (page 6, paragraph 2, (“Some of these differences...”),); page 8, paragraph 3 (“In generating a Unique ID...”); microfiche source code appendix, pages 19, 20, 25-26 “websi/getsessionid.pl”), that uniquely identifies the user to the server simulation system and which may be used to manage server resources or for access control.

To initiate a simulation, a Client first displays a Form, which is transmitted from the Server as Form Creation Data (e.g., HTML <FORM> and associated tags) (Fig. 4B/C; page 8, paragraph 4, (“After the ID has been generated”). A user enters data into the Client Form and then submits it to the Server, together with the previously received Unique Identifier (Fig. 4E; page 8, paragraph 5 (“In Fig. 4C,...”). This Form data is received by the Server and merged with other data and simulated to produce output data compatible with Client display (e.g., web browser) instructions. (page 8-9, paragraph 5, “a) The Unique ID is retrieved and checked...”; microfiche pages 21-24 (“get”), 63-4 (“websi/simulate”), 78,79,80,81, 65-7 (“websi/simulatecore.pl”). These display instructions are then transmitted to the Client.

Claim 2

Dependent claim 2 clarifies a feature of the method in claim 1, which is that repeated simulations may be performed using the same Unique Identifier. This is important where the Unique Identifier is restrict use of resources.

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Claim 3

Dependent claim 3 restricts the method of claim 2 to graphical data (Figs. 4F, 4H, 4J).

Claim 4

Dependent claim 4 clarifies that the Unique Identifier of claim 1 may be used to keep user data separate (page 4, paragraph 1; page 6, paragraph 3)

Claim 5

Dependent claim 5 narrows claim 4 by specifying that user data is kept in temporary server files (page 7, line 4 ("Processing merged data..."); page 9, lines 4 ("A check is run...") thru 9 ("...maximum Browser compatibility.")).

Claim 6

Dependent claim 6 extends claim 1 by specifying that the Unique Identifier be verifiable, i.e., such that a forged identifier is detectable (page 4, paragraph 2).

Claim 7

Dependent claim 7 recites an extension to the method of claim 1 with additional steps occurring before Client Form data is processed for simulation (step 1e) (Figs. 6A-D). The added steps comprise: a) looking up simulation usage associated with the Unique Identifier in a database (microfiche source code appendix page 21 ("websi/get"), line 23-24 ("...`grep...`"), timestamp embedded in Unique Identifier); b) creating a new record if no existing record found (microfiche source code appendix page 34 ("websi/newsessionid.pl"), line 32 ("open(SESSIONIDFILE,">>sessionids");") thru page 35, line 10 ("close("SESSIONIDFILE");")); c) deleting the record if the timestamp has expired (microfiche source appendix, page 20 ("websi/expired.pl")) and backing up to step b); d) not simulating if too many simulations have been run within an interval of time; e) updating simulation usage in the database (microfiche source code appendix page 34 ("websi/newsessionid.pl"), line 32 ("open(SESSIONIDFILE,">>sessionids");") thru page 35, line 10 ("close("SESSIONIDFILE");")) (page 10, paragraphs 1 ("In Fig. 6A through 6F..." thru 3 ("...checking synthesis accuracy and practicality"))).

Claim 8

Dependent claim 8 extends the method of claim 7 by using the simulation usage to lower the process priority. (e.g. Unix "nice").

Claim 9

Dependent claim 9 recites an extension to the method of claim 1 with additional steps occurring before Form Creation Data is sent to the Client (step 1b). The added steps comprise: aa) transmitting Circuit Synthesis Form Creation Data to the Client (Fig 6A-C); ab) accepting Circuit Synthesis Form Data from said Client (microfiche source appendix, page 12 ("active/calculate"); ac) using the submitted Circuit Synthesis Form Data to synthesize a circuit, where the circuit and other data are kept on the Server and indexed by the Unique Identifier (microfiche source appendix page 1 line 1 thru page 3

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line 19 ("active/CalculateFilter.java")); ad) creating Form Structure Data of a type compatible with claim 1, step b (Fig. 6D, microfiche source appendix page 3 line 20 thru page 8 line 5 ("active/CalculateFilter.java")).

Claim 10

Independent claim 10 recites a Client-Server method for simulation over a Network by means of a Stateless Communications Protocol, such as HTTP (page 3, paragraph 4 ("A Browser is a Client Program...")). The system is a (multiple) client-(multiple) server system connected by a computer network, especially the public Internet (Fig. 1-3C, part 200) The method consists of a user visiting a web site and, in addition to the Client retrieving a web page, is sent a token, a "Unique Identifier" (page 6, paragraph 2, ("Some of these differences...")); page 8, paragraph 3 ("In generating a Unique ID..."); microfiche source code appendix, pages 19, 20, 25-26 "getsessionid.pl"), that uniquely identifies the user to the server simulation system.

Form Creation Data (e.g., HTML <FORM> and associated tags) is transmitted to the Client (Fig. 4B/C; page 8, paragraph 4, ("After the ID has been generated")), and User Form Data entered into the form is submitted to a Server, (Fig. 4E; page 8, paragraph 5 ("In Fig. 4C,...")). This Form data is received by the Server and merged with other data and simulated to produce graphical output data compatible with Client display (e.g., web browser) instructions. (page 8-9, paragraph 5, "a) The Unique ID is retrieved and checked..."; microfiche pages 21-24 ("get"), 63-4 ("simulate"), 78,79,80,81, 65-7 ("simulatecore.pl")). This graphical output data, together with other optional data, are then transmitted to the Client.

Claim 11

Dependent claim 11 extends claim 1 by associating the Unique Identifier to at least one of the server privileges of a) model/circuit access; b1) simulation priority; b2) maximum simulation time; c) quality of simulation; d1) maximum size of simulation; d2) persistence of design and simulation data.

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENT

"The method of Claim 1, wherein said assigned Unique Identifier is associated with superior or inferior privileges, said privileges comprising at least one of: a) access to models, circuits and like data; b1) simulation priority; b2) maximum simulation time; c) simulation quality and accuracy; d1) maximum simulation size; d2) persistence of design, simulation and other user data."

Claim 12

Dependent claim 12 extends claim 14 by saving the Unique Identifier in the Client browser by means of a "Cookie" (page 17, lines 7-11 ("get_cookie") thru page 18, line 12; page 19 ("websi/cookielogin.pl")); page 25, lines 12-26).

Claim 13

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Dependent claim 13 explicates the "tracking server usage" purpose of claim 1, step a). (page 4, paragraph 6; page 5, paragraph 1 ("The goal was to design..."); page 6, paragraph 3).

Claim 14

Dependent claim 14 extends the method of claim 1 by requiring a qualification step before the Unique Identifier is transmitted from the Server to the Client. As implemented in the preferred embodiment, this is similar to a conventional "login" (Fig. 4A; page 8, paragraph 4, ("In generating a Unique ID..."))

Claim 15

Independent claim 15 recites a Client-Server method for simulation over a Network by means of a Stateless Communications Protocol, such as HTTP (page 3, paragraph 4 ("A Browser is a Client Program...")). The system is a (multiple) client-(multiple) server system connected by a computer network, especially the public Internet (Fig. 1-3C, part 200). The method consists of a user visiting a web site and, in addition to the Client retrieving a web page, receives a token, a "Unique Identifier" (page 6, paragraph 2, ("Some of these differences...")); page 8, paragraph 3 ("In generating a Unique ID..."); microfiche source code appendix, pages 19, 20, 25-26 "getsessionid.pl", that uniquely identifies the user to the server simulation system and which may be used to manage server resources or for access control.

To initiate a simulation, a Client first displays a Form, which is transmitted from the Server as Form Creation Data (e.g., HTML <FORM> and associated tags) (Fig. 4B/C; page 8, paragraph 4, ("After the ID has been generated")). A user enters data into the Client Form and then submits it to the Server, together with the previously received Unique Identifier (Fig. 4E; page 8, paragraph 5 ("In Fig. 4C,...")). This Form data is received by the Server and merged with other data and simulated to produce output data compatible with Client display (e.g., web browser) instructions. (page 8-9, paragraph 5, "a) The Unique ID is retrieved and checked..."; microfiche pages 21-24 ("websi/get"), 63-4 ("simulate"), 78,79,80,81, 65-7 ("websi/simulatecore.pl")). During the process, the Unique Identifier permits any previous simulations and processes submitted from the same Client to be identified and terminated (page 9, paragraph 2 ("c) A check is run..."); microfiche appendix page 65, lines 23 ("# Check to see...") thru 40). The output data is then transmitted to the Client.

(Essentially similar to Claim 1, except for additional step f), which is executed in parallel with step e)

Claim 16

Dependent claim 16 extends the method of claim 1 by allowing some or all of steps c-f to be instantiated as multiple processes from the same Client, which are reduced to a single method by aborting all but the most recently submitted process (page 9, paragraph 2 ("c) A check is run..."); microfiche appendix page 65, lines 23 ("# Check to see...") thru 40).

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Informal explanatory comments

At this late date it is useful to summarize the state of the industry at time of reduction to practice (Mar-July 1997) and to state clearly what is **not** being claimed. In point of fact, the present claims represent a considerable refinement of the originals, so as to restrict their scope to essentially HTTP and similar stateless protocols.

Client-server simulation predates the advent of the WWW and the Applicant has personally used such systems (via X11) in the development of integrated circuits. The present application scrupulously avoids any general claims to client-server simulation over the internet. It is possible, for example, to reproduce traditional client-server behavior using a Java applet running TCP from within a web page (see discussion of Lawman Xilinx patent below), but that is using a completely different mechanism than HTTP, and so does not relate to the claims under appeal.

Within the WWW technology field, there were historically two fundamental modes of HTTP access: 1) static file retrieval (e.g., .HTML, .JPG, .GIF, etc. files), and 2) interactive results from a CGI (Common Gateway Interface) form submission. At the time of reduction to practice of the present invention (1Q 1997), CGI was fairly new, having been conceived only in 1993, with the widely implemented 1.1 draft standard released only in October of 1995 (see <http://www.w3.org/CGI/>). It was fully appreciated from the start that the CGI mechanism could execute almost any batch-oriented task or group of tasks on a web server, and return results therefrom. This would include results from a simulation or other CAD/CAE-related tasks.

It is also possible, by means of hidden form data, or URL extensions (PATH-INFO), or "cookies" to transmit state between Browser and Web Server, which was a relatively new art at the time of reduction to practice of the present invention and one that to the Appellant's belief had not to that point been used to regulate Server resource use (it had been used for multipage forms and to keep track of shopping cart contents, for example).

Web technology and CAD technology were then widely separated arts, and coupled with a widespread under-appreciation for just how fast computers had become relative to certain kinds of simulations; these factors set the stage for the present invention.

Applicant has studiously avoided claiming the idea of interactive SPICE simulation using a Browser via basic CGI, on the belief that such a claim would be considered obvious (see above regarding CGI and batch tasks - although in light of Transim patents 6,530,065 and 6,832,182 this idea may merit further consideration). What is being claimed, are methods that make **public** access to simulation practical.

Simulations typically take a significant amount of computer resources to execute, and so it is desirable to limit either the overuse or outright abuse of these resources so as to keep them available to all. With respect to overuse, the addition of a Unique Identifier to the

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stateless HTTP protocol allows the server to track usage to a particular client and thereby limit it, in the preferred embodiment, by a simple count of simulations. The most basic problem with basic CGI-initiated simulation is an ability to click on a form submit button multiple times in quick succession and thereby fire off multiple simulations, potentially slowing the server to a crawl. By use of a Unique Identifier it is possible to abort all but the most recently submitted process, thereby eliminating this problem as a source of abuse.

Applicant has made significant disclosures that enable the simulation of preconfigured but user-modifiable circuits over the internet, by unregistered persons. Applicant was also the first to link circuit synthesis to verification-by-simulation using a browser, to the best of his present knowledge.

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F. Grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal.

1. Examiner's Notification of Non-Compliance of Appellant's amended response, Form PTOL-462, item 1.
2. Examiner's Notification of Non-Compliance of Appellant's amended response, Form PTOL-462, items 4 and 5.
3. Examiner's Notification of Non-Compliance of Appellant's amended response, Form PTOL-462, items 6.
4. Examiner's Notification of Non-Compliance of Appellant's amended response, Form PTOL-462, items 8 and 10. (Appellant's understanding is that 10 supports 8).
5. Legal standing of the present application and its appeal.

In the November 14, 2005 Final Office Action, claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Huben et al, US patent no. 5,950,201 in views of Lawman et al, US patent no 6,324,672 B1 and Kahn et al, US patent no 6,574,628 B1. Therefore the ground of rejection of the to be reviewed on appeal is

6. Whether claims 1-16 are obvious in view of Van Huben et al ('201), Lawman ('672), and Kahn et al ('628).
 - a) Citation of prior art which is are obscure/irrelevant, in error or apparently misunderstood.
 - b) Lack of response from Examiner to arguments made by Applicant, instead arguments are rendered "moot in view of new grounds of rejection", where in some cases the "new" grounds recycle the nearly identical citations argued by Applicant in the preceding Response/Amendment.
 - c) General arguments in favor of non-obviousness have not received a response.
7. Filing date of pre-notice amended appeal brief.

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G. Arguments.

Ground 1.

37 CFR 41.37 states:

(c)(1) The brief shall contain the following items under appropriate headings and in the order indicated in paragraphs (c)(1)(i) through (c)(1)(x) of this section, except that a brief filed by an appellant who is not represented by a registered practitioner need only substantially comply with paragraphs (c)(1)(i) through (c)(1)(iv) and (c)(1)(vii) through (c)(1)(x) of this section:

(See also 12.173 and 12.174 in 1205.03, 12.153 and 12.154 in 1205.02)

With respect to item (c)(1)(i), all required sections are, with the possible exception of a table of contents, which appears to be optional (indeed, is missing from the successful appeal of 10/796,051, April 3, 2006). I believe an explanation is normally given in support of each of the checked boxes, so as to allow the applicant to precisely identify the problem(s) and correct it(them). I have been unable to elicit from the examiner what the exact defect is, and on contacting his SPE, Ms. Shah agreed that the structure seemed to comply substantially. If some defect remains, Appellant requests that he be given opportunity to correct it, rather than dismissing the Appeal.

Ground 2.

The same paragraph quoted in Ground 1 above, states that an appellant not represented by a registered practitioner need not substantially comply with 37 CFR 41.37 (c)(1)(v) and (c)(1)(vi). These sections correspond to boxes 4 and 5 of Form PTOL-462 and therefore would seem they should not be checked for a PRO-SE. Appellant requests that these items be struck.

Ground 3.

Arguments in the amended Appeal Brief of 3/15/2007 relative to 37 CFR 41.37(vii) may substantially comply with expectations for a non-registered-practitioner. It has been difficult to locate the relevant MPEP sections and case-law for each argument as a PRO-SE and the Appellant is still working to improve these sections. General arguments against nonobviousness have typically been capitalized.

Ground 4.

Ground 4 concerns evidence presented in rebuttal of examiner's citation of Lawson as prior art. This evidence was originally submitted after Appellant's response of Sep. 22nd, 2005, but before Examiner's Final Office Action of December 2005, as an IDS pursuant to 609.04(b)(2) – an information disclosure filed during an RCE before final and with a 37 CFR 1.97(e) statement that the information only became known to the Applicant 3 months prior to the filing. Applicant only went searching for this information during the writing of his response to the examiner's citation.

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Applicant ultimately gave up trying to get Examiner to acknowledge the facts of 609.04(b)(2), and due to increasing fatigue did not pursue again except on Appeal, where it was attempted to be reinserted as evidence in direct reponse to Examiner's citation of the prior art. Examiner apparently maintains that an IDS fee is due even under 1.132.

Regarding the web citations, I have recently made Attested True Copies of at least one documents still available today on Xilinx's site. Others, despite an 8 year presence on the Xilinx site, have been recently removed and contact with Xilinx's webmaster indicates they may not be retrievable, an argument I find dubious. Nonetheless, I maintain copies of the PDFs as downloaded in Oct. 2005 and can produce Attested True copies if needed, but I think this is of diminished probative value. I continue to look for paper or other copies from an independent source.

Lawman is important for these reasons:

- 1) They function by means of a TCP/IP socket even within a web browser and so are part of the prior art that the present invention was designed to supercede. In particular, connectivity via a web proxy server is not possible.
- 2) They were an indirect customer of Rode Consulting, Inc. for the technology of the present invention. They were the sponsor of a site on ChipCenter, LLC, that made use of the invention, demonstrating commercial success, and long-felt need as the disclosed documents indicate an inability to perform through proxy servers.

Nevertheless, I have included the fee of \$180 in the interest of moving the case forward, and wish to appeal to have it refunded as unnecessary and perhaps defective.

Ground 5.

It has been difficult to ascertain the standing of this brief due to the issues raised by an unintentional failure to file the requisite appeal brief fee. A payment for an extension of five months was filed on the first day of the fifth month with the brief (on December 20, 2006, good through January 19, 2007), but was not noted by the art unit until February. At the time, I assumed there were issues of appeal brief dismissal and consequent abandonment but was told then that if I was given extra time, I should take it. After the second notice of non-compliant amendment I raised the issue again and was told the patent was indeed abandoned and so I should file my brief with a petition to revive within 1 year, which since Jan. 19th, 2008 fell on a Saturday and Jan. 21st was a Federal holiday, is today (Jan. 22nd). At that time I was given to understand that if I filed the amended brief with a petition to revive from abandonment, the application and appeal would be fully revived as of Jan. 19th, 2007 and as if no non-compliant amendments had ever been issued.

After speaking with Vincent Trans, I have come to believe the issue may be one of "Technical Abandonment" and from speaking with Mr. Patrick Nolan understand that abandonment in such cases is a rule rather than a statute so may be waved at the examiner's discretion ("only the examiner can abandon the application"). So despite earlier representations, it may well have been possible to file the brief with the appropriate fee on the 16th, although this is unclear to me even now.

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At this point I feel compelled to file this brief now, even though additional work would improve the arguments, in order to fall within the 1 year period for revival from abandonment. I have considered Mr. Vincent Trans suggestion of withdrawing the Appeal by filing an RCE, but am concerned about consequent deliberate abandonment.

Ground 6.

6a) Citation of prior art which is are obscure/irrelevant, in error or apparently misunderstood.

This is not arguing against individual prior art citations, it is that citations cited by the Examiner do not teach what it is purported to and consequently cannot sustain the argument of obviousness.

There are several examples of apparently obscure, irrelevant and otherwise apparently erroneous citations of the prior art. As a first example, from the Final Office Action, page 2, last paragraph, through page 3, first paragraph (first cited prior art in rejection of Claim 1):

"As per claim 1, Van Huben (201) discloses a method and system for computerized design automation using inter-networking (e.g. World Wide Web) for transmitting design or simulation data over the network with feature limitations very similar to the claimed invention (Abstract, "Summary of the Invention"). According to Van Huben, the design simulation and verification method includes steps of creating

- a transmission network including clients, servers, etc. to form a computing and simulation network wherein each network client would carry unique identifier such as addressing to client, account number, etc. (Col. 18, lines 20-25, col. 23, lines 17-49, as example)."

OA 2005/12/02, pg 2-3.

Technically, the World Wide Web is the collection of hypertext-linked (HTML) files accessible by the stateless, file-oriented HTTP protocol, whereas the Internet is the more general collection of gateways and routers connecting local computer networks (using the most widespread definition of these terms), and accessible by a variety of higher level protocols built on top of IP (the Internet Protocol), of which HTTP is just one. This is an important distinction as most prior-art CAD programs have used protocols such as TCP with intrinsic session state. Thus they used the Internet but not the WWW.

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Compatibility with HTTP permits access to the disclosed methods by means of a web browser, behind a firewall / proxy server.

Moreover the specifics of the citation would appear to be erroneous. Claim 1, 10, 15 etc. disclose *automatic* server methods by which a token ("Unique Identifier") is created and transmitted to facilitate an interactive form-driven simulation process. Although an interactive mode for the retrieval of BOM information is disclosed by the citation, this is not "output data [as] functions of a simulation process" as disclosed in Claim 1e, and the reference to the DCS is to a person, not a server method (note use of "him" and "he" in following citation) and so cannot be construed equivalent functionality for a server method:

"[Status on BOMs is and should be accessible in two ways.] The first is by automatic notification (e.g. e-mail) to the owner as soon as a BOM is invalidated. The second is by means of displaying the BOM either interactively or in report form. This listing shows the overall status of the BOM, and all members of the BOM with their individual status. "

Citation 3.1a, OA 2005/12/02, pg 3, paragraph 1 (Lawson 5,950,201, col. 18 lines 19-25)

"Authorities (Section 1.12)

The DCS permits the Data Manager to establish a wide variety of authorities which gives him great flexibility in managing the library. Each type of authority can be defined very loosely (the user is authorized for all design components, at all levels, in all versions) to very tightly (the user is authorized on an individual design component basis). The utility for granting authorities works in one of two modes:

In one mode the Data Manager is offered a screen in which he can fill in the design component name, type, level, version, user ids, and the type of authority. For any field, except for the user ids, he can default it to "ALL".

In the other mode an authority profile can be called up and executed. An authority profile allows the Data Manager to pre-define the types of authorities for a given type of job. For example, profiles may exist for Designer, Technical Leader, Model Builder, etc.. This information is contained in an editable ASC file in which the Data Manager defines the kinds of authority to varying degrees of restriction. Once the profiles are created, the Data Manager uses this mode to either add/delete users to/from the profile and process the changes within the DCS.

Authorities exist for the following tasks:

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Setting Locks (Move, Overlay, Update, ALL)

Promoting design components and/or BOMs into levels (Engineering Levels, Release Level.

Creating BOMs

Initiating Library Processes

Setting Pseudo Process Results"

Citation 3.1b, OA 2005/12/02, pg 3, paragraph 1 (Lawson 5,950,201, col. 23, lines 17-49)

Again, citation 3.1b would appear to ignore the current wording of claim 1a) **"synthesizing and transmitting said Unique Identifier by means of said Stateless Communications Protocol to at least one Client..."**. Instead, the citation discusses how a Data Manager (a human being "member of the design team", not a server method, as per col. 12, lines 16-18) can **manually** assign privileges to each member of a development team, which is the traditional Information Technology practice in almost perfect contradistinction to the teachings of the present application where all such "accounts" can be created and managed automatically, with an automatically assigned Unique Identifier for such accounts created and transmitted to and from the client without human intervention.

"While more powerful situations are contemplated, the system can be installed in a prior art system, like that described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,333,312. Thus, as we show in FIG. 1, the prior art system of the earlier patent, can be employed in this application, by providing the system with new programs. However, such a system, as illustrated by FIG. 1 will be a data processing system 8, which may include a plurality of networks, such as Local Area Networks (LAN), 10 and 32, each of which preferably includes a plurality of individual computers 12 and 30..."

Citation 3.2a (Lawson 5,950,201, col 9, line 41 to col 9 line 62)

The next citation, 3.2a, (pg.3, par. 2 OA 2005/12/02) "(Lawson '201 col. 9, line 41 to col. 10, line 20)" would appear to be more relevant to the preceding paragraph of the office action but still irrelevant to claim 1, parts b) and c) as it describes the computing topology upon which the disclosed methods execute, without substantively addressing the form transmission and submission protocol of the claim. (Two internet technologies are mentioned, Java and VRML, which are interactive content types that imply nothing about

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communicating state via stateless protocols). Page 3, paragraph 4 of the 2005/12/02 office action states "...different templates and system platforms such as high level programming languages, PC workstations, UNIX, etc **as claimed**...), where, plainly, Claim 1 is disclosing the Client-Server communication protocol in the restricted context of a simulation. Claim 10 restricts this to graphical output and Claim 15 restricts this to a "Browser".

The next citation, 3.2b, (pg.3, par. 2 OA 2005/12/02) (Lawson '201 cols 44-45, 63) is highly obscure, as it discusses "Automated Library Machines" and how they communicate using middleware to move data in heterogeneous compute environments. This is only related in the remotest possible way (i.e, transmission of data) to the disclosed transmission of a synthesized Unique Identifier back and forth with form data which is the clear intent of clauses b) and c) of Claim 1, and as such is not a relevant reference to the prior art. Also the reference to "structure design data" here appears misplaced, but might be appropriate to claim 9. We respectfully suggest this is a poor reference, however, appellant readily concedes that form transmission and submission are well-understood features of the client-server prior art.

With regard to citations 3.4a,b,c,d and e (col. 6, lines 54-67; col. 9 line 53 to col. 11 line 55; col. 16, line 33 to col. 18, line 64; col. 20, line 27 to col. 22, line 65; cols. 33, 44-45, 51, 85-88), 3.4a) claims the van Huben Computerized Design Automation Method manages data and integrates just about any repetitive process related to design, development, manufacturing, inventory tracking. But crucially the system of van Huben does not contemplate a **public** demonstration/evaluation capability, particularly where the computation requirements may be substantial as is the case for simulations, and a primary application for the present invention and one that necessitates new methods for allocating finite resources in an uncontrolled environment.

3.4b-e do not address the issue of merging form data with simulation template data. The words "merge" or "merging" appear nowhere within van Huben ('201), and a "Simulation BOM" (col. 21, line 62) is not a template under control of a "Simulation Coordinator (Integrator)" (col. 73, line 60 to col. 74, line 3). This is a list of items that will trigger processes when certain changes occur. Merging of SPICE data into a template, as disclosed, is a known art but would require a fourth reference which would lend additional force to an argument for non-obviousness.

Also in this same paragraph of the office action, the examiner states "In fact, Lawman teaches a web-based design method and system over a computer network to provide a user or client with a unique identifier", and cites Lawman, '672, col 7, lines 50-58:

"The vendor (Xilinx) places a web page on the internet in a location to which users (e.g., Xilinx customers and potential customers) have access. In the screen display of the user's computer, the web page requests licensing and access passwords, which must be provided by the user in order to configure the design

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database. In this embodiment, the user interface will not write any output files unless the user accepts the license terms. This type of licensing requirement is well known to those skilled in the software art."

Citation pg 3, par. 4 (Lawson '672, lines 50-58)

Plainly this says nothing about use of a Unique Identifier transmitted by a stateless protocol such as HTTP and would seem to reference Fig. 0a of the present application which shows a login step. As has been often stated in previous responses, however, the present invention is compatible with, but does not require, a traditional login step, which was only added at the request of a prospective client. Synthesis of the Unique Identifier only optionally depends on a user login.

In fact, the Xilinx XPCI system disclosed by Lawson works by means of a Java applet opening a TCP connection to a host; a traditional client-server mechanism and something that does not work through standard firewall/HTTP proxies (as documented by Xilinx; see evidence appendix I2 and previous OA responses). Therefore, the cited reference actually demonstrates one of the limitations of the prior art the present invention was designed to overcome, and therefore helps demonstrate the non-obviousness of the present invention.

Citations 3.4g and 4.1a/b of the 2005/12/02 office action (Lawman '672 Figs. 5-17, cols. 7-10) refer to a "unique identifier" and an applet ID although the word "unique" does not appear anywhere in Lawman '672 and ID only appears in "PCI Device ID" where it is a part of an illustrative example, not part of the preferred embodiment.

We also dispute the triple rejection of distinct claims 4-6 in OA 2005/12/02 pg 5., par. 3 ("As per claims 4-6...") by reference to the non-extant "Unique Identifier" of Lawman '672, although it is conceded that Claims 4 and 5 depend on Claim 1 for their novelty. Claim 6, however, ("The method of Claim 1 wherein the Unique Identifier is made verifiable by means of an internal checksum.") is plainly nowhere to be found in van Huben, Lawson or Kahn.

Similarly, on page 5, par. 2 of the office action of 2005/12/02, "As per claim 3...", citation 5.1 (Lawman, cols. 6-10). In this case, the phrase "operating system" cannot be found in Lawman, although cross platform support is inherent in the idea of a web browser. However, the claim under discussion (3) is "The method of Claim 2 wherein at least some of said output data is automatically rendered by Client methods **for graphical display**." Lawman addresses synthesis and download of a package, not the graphical result of a simulation (see Lawman 6,324,672, col 10, line 58 – col 11, line 15), although it is conceded that the issue would be clearer if "graphical display" were referred to as a plot or chart.

With respect to claim 13, pg. 8, p4 OA 2005/12/02 ("As per claim 13, Lawman teaches feature limitations such as getfile, logfile, data type and format for simulation (cols. 7-12).") Lawman mentions server generation of simulation models and client simulation

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output, but not server simulations. This is critical because simulations are CPU-intensive tasks, and therefore not trivially shared. The log file mentioned in Lawman is plainly an error log file, not something intended for marketing purposes. It is also ambiguous whether the error logfile is located on the client or server.

6b) Lack of response from Examiner to arguments made by Applicant, instead arguments are rendered "moot in view of new grounds of rejection", where in some cases the "new" grounds recycle the nearly identical citations argued by Applicant in the preceding Response/Amendment.

(Applicant assumes the Examiner uses the word "moot" in its common legal sense of "null and void", as opposed to "debatable", which was the original sense of the word).

Historically, this has been an issue with all van Huben references which when objected to have been "mooted" as "irrelevant due to new grounds of rejection". It in no way stands to reason that if a direct rejection of Claim N cites van Huben H1 and "other" citation O1, that a retread of this rejection recycles the **almost identical van Huben citation with the same language** except joined to a new citation O2, and possibly a third citation O3, moots the fundamental objection to van Huben H1 (examples of which above, in Section 1), such as relevance. See Office Actions of April and December 2005, and further in Section 5.

The most recent response to final then simply says all arguments have been "unpersuasive". Consequently we ask that the Examiner be asked to respond in detail to our arguments of September 22, 2005 filed in a response to his Office Action of April 11, 2005.

Unaddressed per-claim arguments against citations of prior art and and/or non-obviousness. (from response of 9/22/2005)

The citation of Lawman (672) is actually an excellent argument in favor of the novelty and non-obviousness of the present invention, since Xilinx was apparently aware (see appnote reference below) of the inability of their XPCI applet to work behind corporate firewalls. In 1999, ChipCenter (formerly EDTN), part owned by CMP Media, was the sole client for the technology of the present invention, which was being used in HTML "interactive articles" to permit user simulation of circuit ideas explained in the text. Towards the end of 1999, Xilinx became the primary sponsor of this site (at the same time they were prosecuting the predecessor to (672), and they were very interested in the present invention –discussions took place about making the technology available directly to Xilinx. Those discussions did not produce a new sale, though they continued to

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sponsor the site for some time after and their interest validates the novelty and non-obviousness of the present invention relative to Lawman (672). Synopsys was also interested at this time.

The most general arguments for non-obviousness remain the size of the electronics industry (multiple 100's of billions of dollars in 1997) and the high visibility of the internet in 1997. This Lack of Prior Implementation points to an Assumed Unworkability, which applicant posits as a possible failure to appreciate the cumulative increase in performance of mainstream CPUs, coupled with a widely held underestimation of the potential of the WWW for client-server interaction.

The present invention has no pretensions to claiming the invention of CAD using a web browser, and has in fact disclosed prior art in this regard. The prior art, as was the case with Van Huben and now Lawman (672), typically requires administered accounts for security and resource limiting purposes, whereas the present invention does not have these limitations. Consequently CPU-intensive activities such as circuit simulation can be made publicly available, which is a new frontier for CAD. Lawman (672) specifically discusses the need for login accounts. Unfortunately, the present invention included an optional login step which the applicant would consider removing for clarity if it would not be considered "new matter".

After further reflection, applicant believes the blandness of the phrase "Unique Identifier" may be the core obstacle to allowability and so has modified claims 1, 10 and 15 to make explicit that the Unique Identifier is something that is transmitted at the Stateless Protocol level and so can in no way be construed as any part of traditional client-server communication.

Regarding "As per claim 1",

Lawman's (672) sole advantage over Van Huben (201) is the demonstration of a Java

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applet used to contact a remote server for CAD purposes, but Lawman does not teach anything about how the applet communicates with the server and in particular it does not address a need to dynamically synthesize an identifier, which would likely be superfluous since Lawman specifically discusses the use of "access passwords" (C7:L50 – C8:L11), which would seem to imply the existence of accounts. In fact, Xilinx's own app notes would appear to disclose an inability to communicate via a (HTTP) proxy server.

Regarding "As per claim 2",

The novelty of this claim depends on Claim 1.

Regarding "As per claim 3",

Lawman does demonstrate various user interfaces compatible with multiple operating systems, apparently by means of a Java applet (inferred from Fig. 6, and various "Unsigned Java Applet" messages in other Figures). Cross-platform functionality is intrinsic to Java and HTML. Critically, however, an explanation of the networking details is absent in Lawman, and so cannot be considered taught.

Fig. 6:

"XPCI Web Based Programming Interface Applet \$Id:

xpciClient.java, v 1.3 1997/01/24 16:41:12"

Regarding "As per claims 4-6",

Applets have multiple connectivity options in contacting a server:

- 1) With ordinary applet privileges, an applet may open a connection to the server from which it was loaded. With full privileges (not the default, nor apparently the case here as it requires a signed applet), an applet may open a server socket and make contact to any port on any machine on the Internet. Opening sockets for

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communication is traditional behavior for client-server applications and is not in general compatible with proxy servers. I have found this on a foreign website, which appears to be a copy of an old Xilinx appnote regarding XPCI (relevant portion)

(From
<http://www.nalanda.nitc.ac.in/industry/appnotes/xilinx/documents/techdocs/7436.htm>)

...
#7436

Solution 1:

This error can occur while trying to access the PCI Web Core Generator from behind a corporate firewall. The Xilinx CORE Generator applet must establish a socket connection directly with the server at www.xilinx.com. Some corporate firewalls block these type of connections.

There are currently a couple of workarounds:

- 1) Verify with the system administrator that the firewall does not block socket connections.
 - 2) Access the PCI Core Generator from another ISP which allows socket connections
 - 3) Contact the hotline with your PCI Lounge username, password, and details of what core you wish to download, and have them generate the core and email it to you.
- ...

- 2) An applet may contact a server using the ordinary CGI GET / POST mechanism, which does not by default cause any preservation of state on the server, and in many cases this is sufficient. Certainly it could have proved sufficient for Lawman, et al, to simply spawn a traditional CGI process which after running for some time on the server returned results directly, or emailed them. Because it was required that the user log on to his or her account, there was no need to create a "Unique Identifier".
- 3) The present invention also makes use of the CGI mechanism, but adds an automatically assigned unique identifier for a multiplicity of purposes, amongst which is management of state on the server in the absence of an open socket connection or login account. Lawman neither teaches nor anticipates the need for a dynamically assigned unique identifier at the application level.

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Regarding "As per claim 7"

Use of the word database in Lawman is essentially restricted to "design database", equivalent for the present invention to a submission of user data. What is referred to as a database in the present invention is something with a completely different purpose, that of storing auditing data.

Regarding "As per claim 8",

As previously noted, van Huben does not teach lowering of process priority based on usage. Van Huben's resource/attribute tables appear directed at preventing deadlock by enabling or disabling entire processes according to resource availability, rather than adjusting process priority.

Regarding "As per claim 9",

Lawman does not teach the synthesis of a circuit that is transmitted to the client for editing within a browser window for subsequent simulation.

Regarding "As per claim 10",

The issues are essentially the same as in 1: Lawman does not in fact teach the use of an on-demand synthesized or created Unique Identifier, instead he refers to passwords, a traditional method part of the prior art.

Regarding "As per claim 11",

As previously noted, the privileges described herein need not be assigned by an account manager. These privileges may be derived by domain, from a "ticket" (perhaps stored in a cookie by another process), or by means of the link the user used to reach the first interface page, etc.

Regarding "As per claim 12",

Neither Lawman nor van Huben say anything about cookies.

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Regarding "As per claim 13",

Lawman discusses log files in two contexts – the saving of error messages and the reading of data from IC. In the first case, the error messages can be used for debugging, but Lawman says nothing about marketing or sales.

Regarding "As per claim 14",

It is true that Lawman discloses the use of passwords to access the XPCI applet. But there is no transmission of a Stateless Communications Protocol-compatible Unique Identifier.

Regarding "As per claim 15",

The issues are essentially the same as in 1: Lawman does not in fact teach the use of an on-demand synthesized or created Unique Identifier, instead he refers to passwords, a traditional method part of the prior art.

Regarding "As per claim 16",

As previously noted, applicant does believe it is possible for a single user of the IBM DCS to initiate multiple simultaneous processes, but as there is no attached citation, and a search for keywords could not discover any discussion of automatic elimination of multiple simulations or other processes.

6c. General arguments by Applicant in favor of non-obviousness have not received a response from Examiner.

From the first Reply/Amendment, Applicant has made various general arguments against non-obviousness:

6c(i) The present application Solved an Unrecognized Problem

To the best of Applicant's belief, at the time of reduction to practice (March-July 1997) there were no web-based CAD/CAE tools designed for public simulation of circuits by means of HTTP and the WWW. There would not be any similar public systems for at least 3 years. Applicant is still unaware of any system that directly couples design

through license via EDTN/ChipCenter until the latter closed its doors, years before a rival technology supported by National Semiconductor appeared.

6c(ii) Unsuggested Modification and Combination Unsuggested

The introduction of state for a HTTP-CGI-based simulation was unsuggested at the time and its advantages unappreciated. In the Applicant's view, this was due to the New and Surprising Result that simulation on the latest PCs was fast enough to be interactive, and to the then widely held (and erroneous) belief that web browsers could not support serious client-server applications.

Among the disclosed references, please consider Lorenz, P. and Schriber, T., "Towards a Web-Based Simulation Environment", Proc. of the 1997 Winter Simulation Conference, Dec. 7-10, 1997), pg 1341 and Regnier and Wilamowski, "SPICE Simulation and Analysis through Internet and Intranet Networks", IEEE Circuits and Devices Mag., May, 1998. Note that both of these references **post-date** the reduction to practice of the present invention, and in the case of Regnier, the present application's provisional filing date also. In other words, not only was public simulation interesting over the internet, but **any** complex (SPICE) simulation.

The former reference (Lorenz, et al) is a fair summary of the state of the art as of Dec. 1997, and the mere fact that an expert in the field at that time would still title a conference paper "*Towards a Web-Based Simulation Environment*", with the implication that such an environment is yet to arrive, augurs in favor of the non-obviousness of the disclosed methods at the time of their creation.

The latter reference (Regnier, et al) indicates that the subject of SPICE simulation on the Web was still novel enough in 1998 as to be worthy of scholarship. It should be noted that SPI, although still used today, to the Applicant's knowledge never met with commercial success, presumably because it required a login step.

6c(iii) Commercial Acquiescence

In his Office Action of 2005/4/11, the Examiner cited Lawman, et al (6,324,672), which is an outstanding argument in favor of non-obviousness as Xilinx was the sponsor of the ChipCenter site during its initial run. In fact Xilinx's XPCI demonstrates precisely those limitations of the prior art that the present invention was designed to obviate. That Xilinx became a customer, even if indirectly, should mitigate in favor of allowability. (See Additional response to Office communication regarding 09/287,478, mailed 9/26/2005 and attached screenshots).

Please refer to Lorenz, P. and Schriber, T., "Towards a Web-Based Simulation Environment", Proc. of the 1997 Winter Simulation Conference, Dec. 7-10, 1997), pg 1341 and Regnier and Wilamowski, "SPICE Simulation and Analysis through Internet and Intranet Networks", IEEE Circuits and Devices Mag., May, 1998.

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The fact that as late as Dec. 1997 an expert in the field could still title a conference paper "*Towards a Web-Based Simulation Environment*", with the implication that such an environment has yet to arrive, should be taken as evidence of the non-obviousness of the methods disclosed in the timeframe of their creation.

6c(iv) Crowded Art

The field of client-server CAD/CAE software is crowded and competitive and the electronics industry is one of the world's largest, yet none thought to implement a similar system.

6c(v) Different Combination

Even though client-server CAD systems have existed since at least the 1980's, and although the client-server connectivity of such systems necessarily involves state, such state is not inherent in browser-based client-server systems and always operates in a very different manner and at a application or user account levels, not at the lower network, transport, or session levels.

Many of the examiner's arguments appear left over from before the most recent refinement to the claims, where there is no mistaking the nature of state used to communicate the "Unique Identifier".

6c(vi) Awkward, Involved Combination

To adapt van Huben (201) to perform any interactive task would be awkward in light of Lawman and Kahn would be extremely difficult as the output of Lawman is typically complex library manipulations and batch builds without of an intrinsically non-interactive nature.

To these should be added the Lawman (Xilinx) as Competitive Recognition and Failure By Others (since the present invention solves a problem they failed to), although admittedly, we did not have a license agreement from Xilinx to substantiate that it was the present invention responsible for their interest.

"Hint: this scenario could be an implementation of our DMS in a large mail order clothing outlet which caters to Web shoppers." Hinting is not teaching.

Ground 7.

There is some question as to the filing date of the first pre-notice amendment to this appeal. It may be irrelevant since the appeal needed to be resubmitted.

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Conclusions

We hold that the present Application deserves a serious prosecution on the merits and that held to an equitable standard with contemporary art (in most cases, post-dating the present invention)

Respectfully submitted,

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H. **Claims appendix.**

1. A server simulation method, for use with at least one Client communicating with at least one Server over a Network by means of a Stateless Communications Protocol, said simulation method comprising the steps of:
 - a) synthesizing a Unique Identifier and transmitting said Unique Identifier by means of said Stateless Communications Protocol to at least one Client, said Unique Identifier of a data type compatible with proxies for said Stateless Communications Protocol and said Unique Identifier to be used by at least one Server for at least one of the purposes of a) maintaining server state including, but not limited to, separation and management of User data, b) limiting access to or limiting use of server resources, c) tracking server usage or d) server security;
 - b) transmitting Form Creation Data to said at least one Client;
 - c) accepting User Form Data and said Unique Identifier from said at least one Client;
 - d) merging said User Form Data from said at least one Client with other data, including simulation template data;
 - e) processing said merged data to produce output data, wherein said output data are functions of a simulation and in a format compatible with said at least one Client display instructions;
 - f) transmitting said output data to said at least one Client.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein only steps c-f may be repeated for each new simulation of the same form and wherein only steps b-f may be repeated for each simulation of a new form.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein at least some of said output data is automatically rendered by Client methods for graphical display.
4. The method of Claim 1 wherein said Unique Identifier is used to keep the data of

each user separate from all other users, with high probability (>99%).

5. The method of Claim 4 wherein said user data is stored in temporary files with a limited lifetime.

6. The method of Claim 1 wherein the Unique Identifier is made verifiable by means of an internal checksum.

7. The method of Claim 1, comprising the following additional steps before processing of said merged data:

- a) retrieving a database record indexed by the Unique Identifier, said database record containing at least an associated simulation usage and timestamp;
- b) creating a new database record when no existing record is found, said new database record indexed by the Unique Identifier and containing at least a simulation usage initialized to zero (0) and a timestamp initialized to the current time;
- c) deleting said retrieved record and backing up at least one step, if said timestamp has become older than a certain threshold;
- d) skipping at least the processing of said merged data, if the simulation usage per unit time has exceeded some threshold;
- e) updating said simulation usage in said database record and saving the updated record in said database.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the simulation usage is used to lower the process priority of the simulation.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein additional steps related to circuit synthesis are inserted just before step b), such steps comprising:

- aa) transmitting Circuit Synthesis Form Creation Data to said Client;
- ab) accepting Circuit Synthesis Form Data from said Client;
- ac) synthesizing a circuit according to said Circuit Synthesis Form Data, where said

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synthesized circuit and other temporary files are optionally kept on the Server and indexed by means of the Unique Identifier for eventual use in step 1e);

ad) creating Form Structure Data for use in step 1b), said Form Structure Data containing circuit topology data.

10. An interactive network simulation method, for use with at least one Client communicating with at least one Server over a Network by means of a Stateless Communications Protocol, said method comprising:

synthesizing a Unique Identifier and transmitting said Unique Identifier by means of said Stateless Communications Protocol from a Server to a Client, said Unique Identifier of a data type compatible with proxies for said Stateless Communications Protocol;

transmitting Form Creation Data from a Server to said Client;

transmitting Schematic data from a Server to said Client;

displaying a Form as described by said Form Creation Data and rendering an associated Schematic as described by said Schematic Data by display methods of said Client;

merging of User Form Data from said Client with other data, including simulation template data;

processing by a Server of said merged data to produce at least graphical output data, wherein said graphical output data are functions of a simulation and in a format compatible with said Client's display instructions;

transmitting at least said graphical output data to said Client.

11. The method of Claim 1, wherein said assigned Unique Identifier is associated with superior or inferior privileges, said privileges comprising at least one of: a) access to models and circuits, b) simulation priority and/or maximum simulation time, c) quality/accuracy of simulation methods employed, d) the maximum size and/or persistence of design and/or simulation data.

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12. The method of Claim 14, wherein said assigned Unique Identifier is saved on the Client (e.g., a "Cookie") to permit a simulation or synthesis session to be suspended and resumed at a later time without requiring the user to re-qualify for access.

13. The method of Claim 1, wherein some portion of the said User Form Data is logged together with at least said Unique Identifier for marketing, sales or debugging purposes. Suitable storage mechanisms for said logged data include, but are not limited to: a) HTTP log file (if HTTP GET mechanism used to initiate simulation), b) file of a type and format determined by the simulation software or c) database record.

14. The method of Claim 1, wherein said Unique Identifier is created and transmitted contingent upon the user qualifying for access by successfully conveying appropriate qualification data from the Client to the Server.

15. A server simulation method, for use with at least one Client communicating with at least one Server over a Network by means of a Stateless Communications Protocol, said simulation method comprising the steps of:

- a) synthesizing a Unique Identifier and transmitting said Unique Identifier by means of said Stateless Communications Protocol to at least one Client, said Unique Identifier of a data type compatible with proxies for said Stateless Communications Protocol;
- b) transmitting Form Structure Data to said at least one Client;
- c) accepting User Form Data and said Unique Identifier from said at least one Client;
- d) merging said User Form Data from said at least one Client with other data, including template data;
- e) processing said merged data to produce output data, wherein said output data are functions of a simulation and in a format compatible with said at least one Client Browser instructions;
- f) while processing said merged data to produce output data, simultaneously capable of accepting and processing new User Form Data from said at least one Client, reception

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of said new User Form Data with identical Unique Identifier causing present execution of simulation method to be aborted and associated resources freed in favor of processing of said new User Form Data;

g) transmitting said output data to said at least one Client.

16. The method of Claim 1 with the additional ability to execute a plurality of simulation method steps c-f from a single Client concurrently, said plurality being reduced to a single simulation method by aborting all but the method steps corresponding to the last submitted Client User Form Data.

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I. Evidence appendix.

Appendix I1

Evidence of Partial Reduction to Practice in the April 1997 timeframe (3 pages)

RM/18/1997 15:37 6179409293 GUIDED WAVE SOLUTIONS PAGE 21

73 Mount Vernon Street • Fieding, MA 01807
Voice/Fax: (617) 542-WAVE
sales@guidedwave.com • http://www.guidedwave.com

Guided Wave Solutions

Products That Make Waves



To: <i>Curtis Rode</i>	From: <i>B.C. WABE</i>
Fax: <i>(617) 542-2290</i>	Pages: <i>3</i> (including cover)
Phone:	Date: <i>970418</i>
Fax: <i>WABE</i>	CC:
<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent	<input type="checkbox"/> For Review
<input type="checkbox"/> Please Comment	<input type="checkbox"/> Please Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> Please Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Please Reply

Comments:

Chris,
Here's a stab at it. Looks nice in color.
BCW

Note 1: 4/18/1997 of transmission

Note 2: Guided Wave Solutions has no interest in the intellectual property that is the subject of this appeal

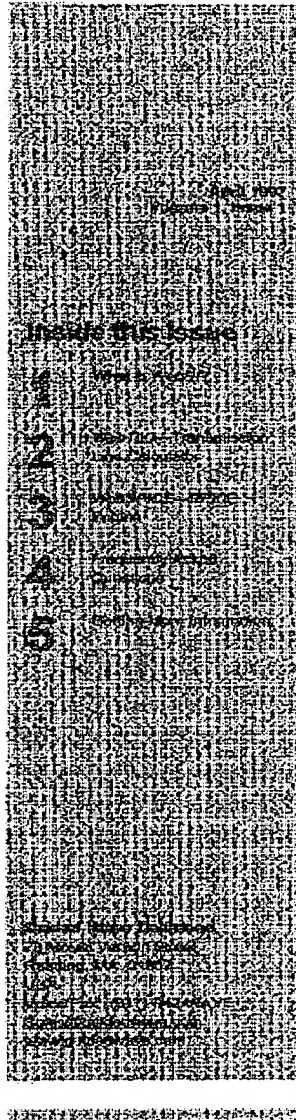
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CLINICALWAVELENGTHS

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WebSI™



What is WebSI?

A New Product from Guided Wave Solutions and Rode Consulting

WebSI is a collection of software which implements key calculations used in design for Signal Integrity. These components are designed to be easily added to any web page.

WebSI includes a transmission line calculator WebTLC and a SPICE engine WebSPICE which includes busy and coupled transmission line simulation.

Together they provide a powerful addition to your web page for worldwide, cross-platform use by engineering, applications, and your customers!

WebTLC™ Transmission Line Calculator

A common task for engineers involved in signal integrity is the analysis of transmission lines. Printed-circuit trace dimensions must be carefully chosen in order to guarantee proper performance

in high-speed digital and RF systems.

The WebSI collection includes a transmission line calculation engine called WebTLC.

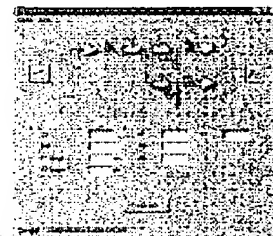
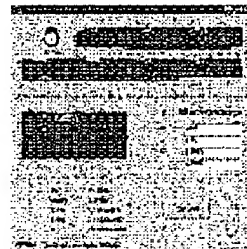
WebTLC solves coaxial line, paired lines, microstrip line, stripline, off-center stripline, coplanar waveguide, and coplanar waveguide with ground. Due to the modular nature of the code other transmission lines can be easily added to a different calculation engine. Can be subrouted.

The figure below illustrates one possible use of this powerful design engine.

WebSPICE™ SPICE Engine

In addition to the transmission line calculator WebSI includes a powerful SPICE engine. This engine is based on Berkeley SPICE v3D5. Virtually any component can be simulated—Res, Cap, Ind, FETs, op amps, logic, etc. Transmission lines can be lossless or lossy or coupled.

The figure below shows a sample web



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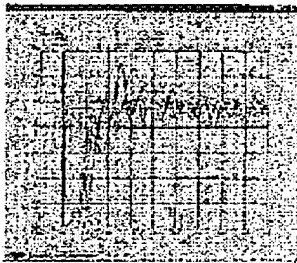
Jan 22, 2008

04/13/1997 15:27 6179029232 GUIDEDWAVE SOLUTIONS PAGE 02

April 1997

page built with WebSPICE.

One of the powerful features of WebSPICE is the graphics engine which takes the simulation results and presents them in a graphical format. Because these graphs are opened as separate windows your users can easily make quick comparisons among design approaches.



Frequently Asked Questions

What platform does SPWeb run on?

Because WebSI runs through a web page your customers can use it from Windows, Unix, or Macintosh platforms.

The simulation engines themselves run on a Windows PC and can be adapted easily to Unix.

Couldn't I do this myself?

Sure, you could. Just hire a signal integrity engineer, a software engineer, and a web page designer. Then buy the book *Transmission Line Design Handbook* by Brian C. Wadell and get a copy of SPICE source code. Now write the code, develop a graphics engine, and you are starting to get close.

If you've ever tried to do this you can see the time and money your company can save by using the WebSI engine.

Can I use a commercial SPICE engine instead?

Maybe. But probably not. You need to consider your licensing arrangements with the vendor and how much your licenses are in use.

A typical single-user SPICE license will cost between \$5k and \$25k. Licensing agreements often prohibit subcontracting or outside time zone use of a program.

Also, if you are currently sharing a license on a network you may find that the additional loading of web-based users may slow down in-house work.

One of the advantages of WebSPICE is that you can run as many copies as you need to support your web-based users.

How do I handle high usage by my customers?

Because WebSI is PC-based it is easy to expand by adding PCs to your system.

How Do I Handle Security Issues

Good Question! By making your web site available to customers and other outside users you have opened up your network. The idea is to provide better customer service but the Internet connection is also a potential path for hackers into your corporate data.

The most common solution to the security problem is a "firewall." The firewall provides a barrier through which only specific types of Internet traffic may pass blocking would be hackers. WebSI works with firewalls to maintain the security of your corporate data.

That sounds great but can you...?

Guided Wave Solutions and Rode Consulting have teamed up to provide complete solutions to your web page requirements for technical content. We would be happy to quote custom software or configurations.

How to Contact Us

Guided Wave Solutions
73 Mount Vernon Street
Reading, MA 01867
sales@guidedwave.com
http://www.guidedwave.com

WebSPICE: Making Electronic Design Work Better

WebSPICE is a web-based simulation engine that allows you to create and share circuit designs and simulation results. It is a powerful tool for electronic design engineers, allowing them to collaborate and share their work in real-time. WebSPICE is a web-based simulation engine that allows you to create and share circuit designs and simulation results. It is a powerful tool for electronic design engineers, allowing them to collaborate and share their work in real-time.

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Appendix I2
SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION per 37 CFR 1.132

Declaration traversing objection or rejection (7 pages)

As an applicant in the above-identified application, I declare as follows:

1. I am the sole inventor of the subject matter of the above identified application.
2. I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification and claims, as originally filed, and as amended by the amendment(s) dated
3/25/2002 (as revised 6/13/2002), 1/9/2003, 8/28/2003 (as revised 9/29/2003),
5/14/2004, 12/16/2004, and 9/22/2005
3. I believe that I am the original and first inventor or inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought.
4. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of the application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(a), and if this oath accompanies or refers to a continuation-in-part application, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

In partial fulfillment of Section 1.56(a) please consider the following evidence originally submitted as an Information Disclosure Statement but lacking a statement that this material was discovered within the prior 3 months (in response to Examiner's citation of Xilinx prior art) and so not considered by the Examiner.

- 4.1 Answer Record #7436: LogiCORE PCI - Error: "XPCI CORE Generator Server transaction failed. Failure cause: 1097...". Xilinx 2005 [retrieved on October 19, 2005].
Retrieved from the Internet:
<URL: http://www.xilinx.com/xilinx/xil_ans_display.jsp?getPagePath=7436>
- 4.2 CORE Generator for PCI: The First Web-Based Development Tool for FPGA Design. Xilinx, Inc. 1997 [retrieved on October 19, 2005].
Retrieved from the Internet:
<URL: http://www.xilinx.com/xcell/xi25/xi25_14.pdf>
- 4.3 CORE Generator Questions & Answers. Xilinx, Inc. 1997 [retrieved on October 19, 2005]. (cont'd)
Retrieved from the Internet:
<URL: http://www.xilinx.com/products/logicore/pci/cg_qa.htm>
- 4.4 Email from Mark Noble, Xilinx Technical Support. Xilinx, Inc. Oct 19, 2005
- 4.5 "Why Choose a Monolithic Instrumentation Amplifier". EDTN / Rode Consulting, 1999. [retrieved on October 19, 2005] Note Xilinx sponsorship.

Table of citations 4.1-4.5

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The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "Answer Record # 7436: LogiCORE PCI - Error: 'XPCI CORE Generator Server transaction failed. Fal - Microsoft Int...". The browser's menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "Favorites", "Tools", and "Help". The address bar also shows "Search", "Favorites", and "Go" buttons. The main content area is the Xilinx Support page, which has a navigation bar with links for "US Site", "日本サイト", "中国网站", "Documentation", "Download", "Buy Online", and "Login". The Xilinx logo is prominently displayed. The page title is "Support". The main content area is titled "Answers Database" and lists the "Answer Record: 7436". It provides details about the error, including the "Family" (Unspecified), "Product Line" (Unspecified), and "Part" (NotDetermined). The "Version" is listed as "01/29/03 13:47:32" and the "Status" is "Active". The "Problem Description" section includes keywords "PCI, CORE Generator, COREGen, fail, 1097" and a "General Description" stating that the error occurs when downloading the PCI Core from the web. The "Solution 1:" section provides a detailed explanation of the error and offers several ways to work around it, including verifying firewall settings, accessing the PCI CORE Generator from another ISP, and contacting Xilinx Customer support. The footer of the page includes links for "Feedback", "Sitemap", "Trademarks", "Privacy", and "Legal", and a copyright notice for Xilinx, Inc. from 1994 to 2005.

Answer Record # 7436: LogiCORE PCI - Error: "XPCI CORE Generator Server transaction failed. Fal - Microsoft Int...

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Search Favorites

Address

US Site 日本サイト 中国网站 Documentation Download Buy Online Login

XILINX® Support

Enter Search Terms Search

Enter Search Terms

Entire Site Advanced Search

Support

Documentation | Download | Troubleshoot | Contact Support

Xilinx: Support: Answer Display

Answers Database

LogiCORE PCI - Error: "XPCI CORE Generator Server transaction failed. Failure cause: 1097..."

Rate This Answer

☐ Very Useful

☐ Useful

☐ Not Useful

→ Rate

☒ Email this page

☒ Feedback

☒ Print Version

Problem Solvers

Answer Browser

Tech Tips

Advanced Search

MySupport

WebCase

Forums

How to Find Answers

Site Map

Answer Record: 7436

Family: Unspecified

Product Line: Unspecified

Part: NotDetermined

Version: 01/29/03 13:47:32

Last Modified: 01/29/03 13:47:32

Status: Active

[Problem Description:]

Keywords: PCI, CORE Generator, COREGen, fail, 1097

Urgency: Standard

General Description:

When I download the PCI Core from the web, the following error is reported:

"XPCI Core Generator Server transaction failed. Failure cause: 1097 URLConnection (to cgi-script) error: netscape.security.AppletSecurityException: security: Could not resolve IP for host www.xilinx.com. See the trustProxy property.30 Please try again later or notify logiCORE@xilinx.com."

Solution 1:

This error occurs if you are attempting to access the PCI Web CORE Generator from behind a corporate firewall. The Xilinx CORE Generator applet must establish a socket connection directly with the server at www.xilinx.com, and certain corporate firewalls block these types of connections.

There are several ways to work around this problem:

1. Verify with your system administrator that the firewall does not block socket connections.
2. Access the PCI CORE Generator from another ISP that allows socket connections.
3. Contact Xilinx Customer support at: <http://www.support.xilinx.com/support/expressweb/support.htm>. Include your PCI Lounge user name, password, and the details regarding the core you wish to download and the firewall problems you are experiencing. The core will be generated and emailed to you.

Feedback Sitemap Trademarks Privacy Legal

Documentation | Download | Troubleshoot | Contact Support

Home | Technology Solutions | Products & Services | Market Solutions | Support

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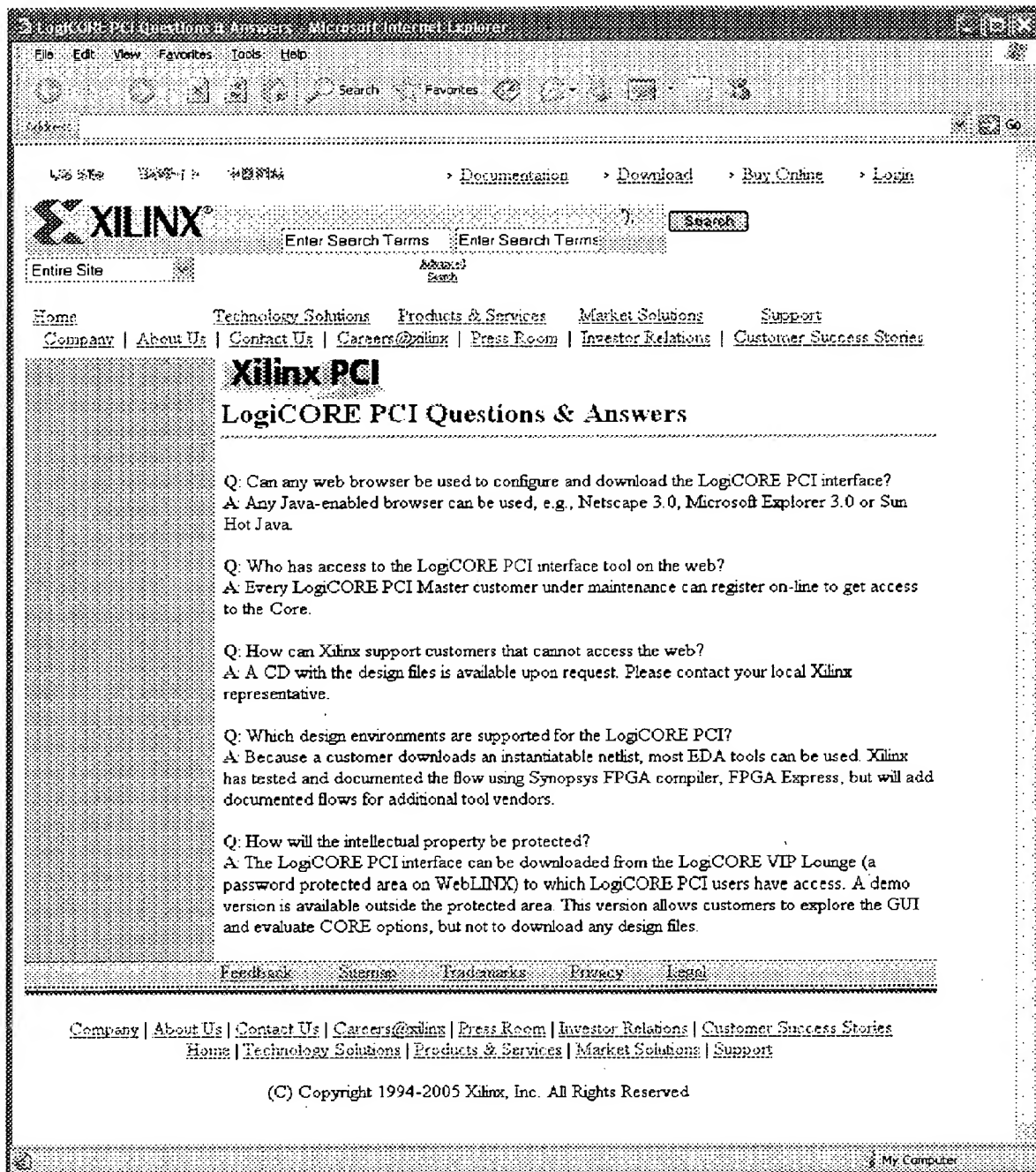
My Computer

Citation 4.1

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Reply-to: mark.noble@xilinx.com

FROM: Mark Noble

***** The following is an email from Xilinx Technical Support.
***** Please do not reply to this email.
***** To reply, send email to the address mark.noble@xilinx.com
***** and reference the case number shown below.

CASE_ID_NUM: 604367

Dear Chris,

With regards to your case:-
CASE #604367

RE: PCI core

The PCI core is still available on the PCI web site, and is provided in a ZIP file only, and there is no WEB CONFIGURATION tool for the PCI core, other than the UCF Generator.

The reason for this is that the PCI core is now included with in the COREGEN tool, as of ISE 7.1i SP2 with IP UPDATE 2. Coregen is capable of providing the PCI core, as well as being able to configure the core with out all the problems that the WEB CONFIGURATION tool had.

The PCI core in coregen is controlled by means of a license file which can be obtained from the PCI lounge once the core is purchased. If you have not purchased the core then you can still generate the PCI core but will only be able to get the simulation models. If you require a hardware time out evaluation version of the core, then you will need to request a license file for this.

Full information on how to generate an evaluation version of the PCI core can be found at the following web link:-

http://www.xilinx.com/ipcenter/ipevaluation/pci_evaluation.htm

Best Regards

Mark Noble
Tech Lead
Xilinx Technical Support

// For all new technical support issues not in reference to the above
\\ case, please contact the appropriate support office below. Also
// please visit our WEB site at <http://support.xilinx.com> for the latest
\\ Xilinx documentation and application information.
(<http://support.xilinx.co.jp> for Japanese)

For Customer Education information, please visit
<http://www.support.xilinx.com/support/education-home.htm>

For Technical Support contact information, please visit
http://www.support.xilinx.com/support/services/contact_info.htm

Citation 4.4

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XILINX

Why choose a monolithic instrumentation amplifier?

The typical instrumentation amplifier is a multi-chip device. It consists of a precision op-amp, a precision resistor network, and a precision reference voltage. This multi-chip architecture introduces parasitic capacitance and inductance, which can degrade the amplifier's performance. A monolithic instrumentation amplifier, on the other hand, is a single-chip device. It integrates the op-amp, resistor network, and reference voltage on a single chip. This monolithic architecture eliminates parasitic capacitance and inductance, resulting in a more precise and stable amplifier.

An op-amp is designed to be used in a negative feedback topology. In this topology, the op-amp's output is fed back to its inverting input. This feedback loop forces the op-amp to operate in its linear region, where it can accurately amplify the input signal. A monolithic instrumentation amplifier, on the other hand, is designed to be used in a non-inverting topology. In this topology, the input signal is fed to the op-amp's non-inverting input. This non-inverting topology allows the amplifier to provide a higher input impedance and a lower output impedance, which are desirable characteristics for many instrumentation applications.

"Precision" is a relative term. It is used to describe the accuracy of the amplifier's output. A monolithic instrumentation amplifier can achieve a precision of 0.1% or better. This level of precision is not possible with a multi-chip instrumentation amplifier. The reason for this is that the multi-chip architecture introduces parasitic capacitance and inductance, which can cause the amplifier's output to drift over time. A monolithic instrumentation amplifier, on the other hand, is designed to be as precise as possible. It uses precision resistors and a precision reference voltage to achieve this level of precision.

Monolithic instrumentation amplifiers can't be used in all applications. They are best suited for applications where precision and stability are important. For example, they are used in medical instrumentation, industrial process control, and scientific research. They are not used in applications where cost is the primary concern. For example, they are not used in consumer electronics, where the cost of the amplifier is a significant factor.

With a lot of careful design, a multi-chip instrumentation amplifier can be made to perform as well as a monolithic instrumentation amplifier. However, this is a difficult task. It requires a high level of design expertise and a lot of time and money. A monolithic instrumentation amplifier, on the other hand, is designed to be as precise and stable as possible. It uses precision resistors and a precision reference voltage to achieve this level of precision.

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TEST PARAMETERS

Parameter	Value
Input Impedance	100 MΩ
Output Impedance	100 Ω
Common Mode Rejection Ratio (CMRR)	100 dB
Differential Mode Rejection Ratio (DMRR)	100 dB
Power Supply Rejection Ratio (PSRR)	100 dB
Temperature Coefficient	0.1 ppm/°C

DC CHARACTERISTICS

Parameter	Value
Input Offset Voltage	10 μV
Input Bias Current	10 nA
Output Voltage Swing	10 V
Common Mode Input Range	10 V
Differential Mode Input Range	10 V
Power Supply Range	10 V
Temperature Range	0 to 70 °C

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Temperature Range	0 to 70 °C

TEMPERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

Parameter	Value
Input Offset Voltage	10 μV
Input Bias Current	10 nA
Output Voltage Swing	10 V
Common Mode Input Range	10 V
Differential Mode Input Range	10 V
Power Supply Range	10 V
Temperature Range	0 to 70 °C

DC CHARACTERISTICS

Parameter	Value
Input Offset Voltage	10 μV
Input Bias Current	10 nA
Output Voltage Swing	10 V
Common Mode Input Range	10 V
Differential Mode Input Range	10 V
Power Supply Range	10 V
Temperature Range	0 to 70 °C

TEMPERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

Parameter	Value
Input Offset Voltage	10 μV
Input Bias Current	10 nA
Output Voltage Swing	10 V
Common Mode Input Range	10 V
Differential Mode Input Range	10 V
Power Supply Range	10 V
Temperature Range	0 to 70 °C

DC CHARACTERISTICS

Parameter	Value
Input Offset Voltage	10 μV
Input Bias Current	10 nA
Output Voltage Swing	10 V
Common Mode Input Range	10 V
Differential Mode Input Range	10 V
Power Supply Range	10 V
Temperature Range	0 to 70 °C

TEMPERATURE CHARACTERISTICS

Parameter	Value
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DRAFT Appeal Brief , rev B

Jan 22, 2008

Amended brief in response to a Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief

This material was not found as part of a general search, but in specific response to examiner's citation of Lawman 6,324,672 (assigned to Xilinx), and therefore more directly connected to Examiner's objections and the content of Applicant's response. To summarize an earlier office action response:

- 1) Citation 4.1 demonstrates the inability of the Xilinx LogiCORE PCI tool to work through firewalls, which is not a limitation of the present invention;
- 2) Citation 4.3 demonstrates a requirement for registration by users, which is not a limitation of the present invention;
- 3) Citation 4.4 suggests a lack of commercial success of the LogiCORE, as it was later withdrawn as a web tool;
- 4) Citation 4.5 demonstrates that Xilinx was a sponsor of ChipCenter's deployment of the present invention (Articles with embedded interactive simulations); Applicant holds therefore that the citation of Xilinx is in fact an excellent argument in *favor* of nonobviousness since Xilinx effectively licensed the technology of the present invention in preference to using their own.

Applicant had to this point considered the IDS as a neutral mechanism for disclosure of art both prior art and other materials, where 37 CFR 1.132 may have been more appropriate for the latter. In this vein, Applicant would like to point out that the IDS of 1/15/2005 (filed in conjunction with RCE) includes material that *postdates* reduction to practice so as to emphasize the non-obviousness of the present invention at the time of its conception and/or reduction to practice.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Signature of Inventor

Printed Name of Inventor

Date

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J. Related proceedings appendix.

None.

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K. Supplemental Declaration regarding Appeal Brief

Evidence, as filed 12/20/2006 and amended 1/19/2007, 3/15/2007 and 1/22/2008

As an applicant in the above-identified application, I declare as follows:

1. If only one inventor is named below, I am a sole inventor, and if more than one inventor is named below, I am a joint inventor with the inventor(s) named below of the subject matter of the above identified application.

2. I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification and claims, as originally filed, and as amended by the amendment(s) dated .

3. I believe that I, and the other inventor(s) named below if more than one inventor is named below, am the original and first inventor or inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought.

4. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of the application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(a), and if this oath accompanies or refers to a continuation-in-part application, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Signature of Inventor



Printed Name of Inventor

CHRISTIAN S. RODE

Date

1/22/2008